

The mission of the Long Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce is to promote Chamber members while enhancing the livability and connectedness of the community.

## **AGENDA : Long Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce**

Current Executive Board Members: Chair- Josiah Tonder, Vice Chair- Jeremiah Zahnow, Secretary-Treasurer- Denita Wisniewski

Board Members: Todd Ecker, Andy Otremba, Chris Amundson, Micki Czech, Amy Allen, Toby Polkinhorne

Members Present: Josiah, Toby, Jeremiah, Micki, Chris, Denita, Amy via Zoom

**Wednesday, October 23, 2024 – Monthly MEETING 03:30 PM @ City Hall**

### **MEETING**

**1-Call to Order/Roll Call** Josiah at 3:30 pm

**2- Approval of agenda/additions/deletions**

**No additions or deletions** Motion to accept by: Jeremiah Seconded by: Chris, Motion carried

**3- Approval of Minutes, additions**

**Discussion of Jason Brown's conversation regarding the Long Prairie Leader at the September meeting.** Motion to accept by: Jeremiah Seconded by: Chris, Motion carried

**4- Financial Report – Decision about CD's – Vacation pay – see attached**

**September is in the positive. Have 4 members that have not paid. One is the Christmas tree farm, and she is just opening for the season. Bank account \$58,000 plus CD's. Arts and Crafts Show is \$23,408 but have advertising to come out of that yet. Need to have a budget meeting next month. Phil will be retiring - he would like to be done by Jan. 2025. Lu has been making some contacts for a replacement. He won't just drop us.** Motion to accept by: Micki Seconded by: Jeremiah, Motion carried

CD informations: Renew CD #90105 to renew at 4.5% 5 month CD speical Motion made by Jeramiah, Second by Chris, motion carried

Lu Vaction hours - 30 hours worked during her vacation during the month of August 2024. Lu is paid for 2 weeks of vacation, and 2 weeks of unpaid vacation. Motion by Toby to pay Lu for the 30 hours of pay, second by Jeremiah. Point made for in the future if we hire someone as additional staff, to be able to cover for Lu, and Lu be able to unplug and take her vacation. This year, Danniela was an intern and not able to cover for Lu. She was not able to be expected to cover this year when Lu was on vacation. Motion carried

**5- Presentations:**

**None**

**6- Director's Report-** Introduction of new Community/Chamber Members – **NONE**

**None**

**7- Old Business**

Danniela Chavez's position - What happens after November 30, 2024?

She is getting \$18/hour, 10 hours per week. Peg's yearly cost \$1600-1800. Peg does all of the poster designs. Danniella will cost about \$6,840 in addition to Peg's yearly cost. Peg did all of the posters for the Chamber, but is retiring. Danniella has been hanging up all of the poster. She is working with other businesses to help with logos, posters, etc. There may be ways that we can offer additional services that Danniella would be able to help with. Discussion of Danniella as a subcontractor vs employee. We could do an extension to the contract to bump out past November 30, 2024. Motion to extend contract to December 31, 2024 and make a priority in November meeting by Chris, Second by Jeremiah, Motion carried

Chamber/Tourism Event reports & updates:

**Networking events**

- Report – September Childcare Roundtable

- October – LPEDA & TCDC - Business Appreciation – Manufacturers’ Breakfast – Central Bi  
@ LP Country Club 7-8am

**Prairie Days** dates – SAVE THE DATE – support meeting- Set date

**Public Forums:** Report- School Board, City & County

**Halloween Trick or Treat** – on Thursday October 31<sup>st</sup>

**Bright Light festivities**

**Arts & Craft show** - #s, new things – t-shirts & concessions

Tourism update: Tourism video in the process- Chris Amundsen taking the reigns.

October 22, 2024 at 9am -

By-laws – click link: <https://www.longprairie.org/about-us/> - download from the page

**\*suggestions from Chamber members – see email responses below -**

**8- New Business**

Phil Gould is retiring. Budget meeting and plan moving forward

New members recruitment

Josiah will be done at the end of 2024. We will need to do elections in January.

The Tourism Committee would like to join as a member of the board.

Motion to Adjourn by Jeremiah and seconded by Chris. Meeting adjourned.

**9- Adjourn** Our Core Values :

Promoting and connecting Chamber Members

Information and Resource Hub

Community enhancement

Hello Chamber members,

I have a quick question. The Chamber would like to include Email voting in their bylaws. Do any of you have this kind of voting clause in your bylaws and if you do could you please send that information to the Chamber via email? Thanks.

**Addition to By-laws - email voting**

AJ Peters:

I might consider something like survey monkey rather than email. If using email, you need to set up an imap mail system and have a separate folder for each voting item.

Todd Wadena Electric Coop

We can vote my mail, in person or electronic means. I’ve attached the link to our bylaws. I’m not at the office for the rest of the week. We do Our “electronic” voting online (specific website).

<https://toddwadena.coop/about/articles-bylaws/>

CentraCare

(d) As an alternative to a formal meeting, the voting members of the Medical Staff or a committee may be presented with a question by mail, facsimile, e-mail, hand-delivery, or telephone, and their votes returned to the chairperson by the method designated in the notice. A quorum for purposes of these votes will be the number of responses returned to the chairperson by the date indicated, except for the quorum requirements noted in (a) above. The question raised will be determined in the affirmative if a majority of the responses returned has so indicated.

## Long Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce

### 2024 Strategic Goals

#### Increase Chamber Membership

Secure **10** new members in either Long Prairie or the surrounding area.

Show non-members the value of membership by introducing them to the Chamber Website, Facebook page and Membership Benefits flyer.

#### Retain Current Membership –

Make members feel valued by visiting and calling. Focus on connecting with at least 5 dormant members each month to check-in and remind them of the available membership benefits.

#### On going

Promote and share business events and content via the chamber website, Facebook, Networking events, radio, emails etc.

#### On going

Brand the LPACC as the information Hub of Long Prairie

Send out **Bi-weekly** emails utilizing direct links for advertisements and events.

#### On going

Update the chamber website monthly to ensure it is an efficient and effective way to connect the community with resources

#### On going

Organize Community Development Opportunities

Facilitate a minimum of 3 classes/workshops per year on various topics. Events can be either in person or virtual.

#### Budget

Establish a budget committee to meet quarterly to discuss financials.

Ensure community events are budgeted in the positive.